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Monday, November 20, 1905

ON ONE MAN.

On one man and his arbitrary will are dependent all the reactionary forces of this State.

That man is the chief of the Mormon church.

While all other elements of the population, other than those which he controls, are laboring untidily to build up this commonwealth into a magnificence which shall dazzle the world, he alone holds, by the power of priestcraft and superstition, the mass of his people from joining in the mighty work.

All other elements of this community desire to see this State in harmony with the Union. He alone prevents.

Why does this man insist upon dimming the glory of Utah?

If Joseph F. Smith will enforce upon his own life and the lives of his people the conditions to which he gave assent fifteen years ago and during the five years following up to the time of Statehood, the growth and splendor of this State will be without a parallel since the days of the California Argonauts.

If he will not make this enforcement, a part of the energy of the State must be diverted from its channel of better progress to the necessary warfare which shall complete his acquiescence.

The State will go on. Will the president of the Mormon church and his worshippers resist, or will they join in the mighty movement and do their part by re-establishing the honor of Utah with the Nation according to their covenant?

Perhaps Apostle Penrose realizes that he can injure Apostle Smoot most by defending him.

Permission is cheerfully granted to Apostle Grant to sing all of the Utah songs—in England.

That new drinking fountain is favorably situated in the club neighborhood to be quite suggestive.

Senator Smoot will be compelled soon to go to Washington but it may be the last time he will be put to such trouble.

But, for a dollar a ticket, can enough strong refreshments be furnished to make a banquet earnestly Democratic?

Mayor Morris graciously accepted the library drinking fountain even if he has lost much of his interest in water affairs.

Young ladies in army post towns will, we believe, heartily agree with Gen. Chaffee in the belief that the army needs more officers.

Even unreasonable persons who have objected to The Tribune's music in the past, could not help liking the kind furnished yesterday.

The President will probably fix this insurance business so that the directors will know where the money is. Hereafter many of them thought they had loaned it to others when in reality it was in their own pockets.

Three new trunk lines of railway within the next three years for Salt Lake must not be accepted as an invitation for our people to get out because of superior facilities, but as a strong inducement for other people to come in.

Mayor-elect Thompson is the one unruffled man, showing no curiosity concerning prospective appointments under his administration, since he is justly confident that the work will be in

competent hands after the first of January.

GRAFTING IDLENESS.

The recent exposure of the impropriety and even crime in the conducting of large financial institutions in this country make a temporary—wishes it might be permanent—check upon the dangerous tendency of modern financial operations as related to modern operators in their personal fortunes.

The recent ripping open by the knife of public investigation has shown that some institutions were being operated almost entirely in the interest of idleness, or at least in the interest of men who perform no service in comparison with the enormous salaries or gifts which they received; notwithstanding the fact that the corporations were operating at public cost and ostensibly for public weal.

This is an age when skill and genius receive their highest reward; and no man who believes in the progress of the human race would withhold money or fame from those men who, by executive ability or by creative genius, can minister to the righteous needs of the earth and to the proper aspiration of humanity to move upward.

But from time immemorial there has been a class of men, greater or less in number and in power according to circumstance, who have lived from the toil of others; and these have invariably grown more and more burdensome to the underlying mass as civilization has advanced with its multiplications of luxurious living. And the mere idler of this class who happens, by his own fortuitous circumstances to be in a position to graft a financial concern because of his name, or his possession of secrets, or his financial position outside of the institution, or his reputation as a man of integrity—he is one for whom the world properly has no sympathy, and the exposure of his peculation must have a tendency to abolish him and his whole parasite kin. Our civilization is wealthy enough without the Hazen Hydes who draw each \$100,000 a year for no service to mankind, without the insurance presidents who draw \$150,000 a year for the negative labor of selecting members of their own family to draw other large salaries. The whole country bears the burden; and as the demands of these days are so varied and as a man of even large and well-earned salary is able to meet only the ordinary calls of our community and social existence, it is gratifying to know that the economic sin of maintaining a horde of grafters at the top of the great financial institutions is not only recognized, but is being repented.

All the people of this country work for New York because New York is the financial dictator of the country. It is only fair, then, that New York and New York people should render fair return for the toil which enriches the metropolis. To be exactly just, the whole tribe of cormorants who have been living their lives of idle luxury, without investment of money, without investment of brains, without investment of energy, should be abolished.

The one fear which the reformers can have in the matter is that the recognition of the wrong and its present remedy will be forgotten in a brief cycle, and that the idler will return again with even greater demands and with greater power to draw the money of toil with which to gratify those demands.

THE SEED DISTRIBUTION.

A recent dispatch from Washington announces the oncoming of the annual seed distribution. It is said that thirty-eight million packages, costing two hundred and ninety thousand dollars, are to be distributed this year, mostly by Congressmen.

It has been a common outcry that this seed distribution is a job, a steal, a graft, and so on; but we do not so regard it. On the contrary, we consider that with an amended plan in making the distribution, it should be one of the most useful things to the whole people that the Government does, or possibly could do.

The weak spot in the distribution is the hand that Senators and Representatives take in it. They get four-fifths of the packages. Their selections and distributions are necessarily unscientific, and very much at random. No good, or so little good that it is a negligible quantity, comes from this Congressional distribution. Adaptation is little thought of, but the mass of seeds is requisitioned on the basis that every member wants his share, to send to the farmers in his district, so that they may know their anxious Representative has not forgotten his friends. And it is a mighty satisfaction to a farmer in the old Northwest, for instance, to get a consignment of castor beans, or the bulb of a Bermuda lily. It is this loose use of the seed distribution that is subject to condemnation.

But the use of the seeds by the Department of Agriculture is on a different basis altogether; it belongs in a separate class. It is scientific, helpful, economic and yields great results. The supply of seed wheat, under the direction of the Department of Agriculture, has materially raised the grade and increased the yield per acre of wheat in the United States. And the selection of seeds for experiment purposes, in many growths, using different sections of the country and different soils, is well calculated to keep up the quality and yield of the standard products, and to introduce new varieties that are and will continue to be of untold value. In sugar beets, for example, the department is experimenting on the unit growth, and if success attends the efforts, as it probably will, the cost of raising a field of beets will be materially reduced and

ANOTHER TRIBUTARY MINING REGION.

A line of railway is building from Toano on the Southern Pacific main line through the great Steptoe Valley in Nevada to the camp of Ely in White Pine County. It traverses a barren level, but on either side is a range of mountains impregnated with mineral. In addition to Ely and surrounding region, the road will be within ride shot of new camps where recent discoveries have shown gold, silver, and copper ledges in place, and old camps which produced their millions in the halcyon days of silver.

All along the two mountain lines of this great mineral showing are centered the men who have been holding and working for years, encouraged by the hope of transportation facilities. In part they have been sustained by an occasional shipment to the Salt Lake markets; but because of the excessive cost of wagon haul, they have been more largely sustained by their own pluck.

The Tribune hears from an authoritative source that of the one hundred and fifty miles, sixty-five miles have been practically completed and that the early spring will see the railway in daily operation.

Every producer in all the camps looks to Salt Lake for his market. He will send his ores here, he comes here to transact his business, if he have children they attend school here, and the whole region is as tributary to Salt Lake as if the camps were in Summit or Tooele County in this State.

That railway is one of the greatest boosts that the Greater Salt Lake can have. It will run a stream of money into this metropolis like unto that which comes from Utah's own bonanzas.

One more great certainty is thus piled upon the other great certainties, which assure a city of 150,000 population here within the next five years, and with wealth and prosperity more than commensurate with the number of people.

the price of sugar should fall accordingly, to the great benefit of all the people.

So, while we have no quarrel with those who denounce the promiscuous and generally profitless seed distribution by members of Congress, it would be a very serious mistake to put the Agricultural Department's distribution in the same class. For, that has been so abundantly fruitful and beneficial as to mark a mighty progress; and the department is prepared, with the new agricultural science, of which Luther Burbank is the most conspicuous exponent, to give results far surpassing even its great beneficial work of the past.

The thing to do, so far as the Department of Agriculture is concerned, is to largely increase its share in the distribution and contract the appropriation to the Congressmen, giving them something else, Christmas or New Year's cards, for instance, to send to their constituents as remembrances and tokens, instead of garden seeds. The cards would be just as valuable, and would work equally well as the seeds for reminders, and the Department would then have full opportunity to do its work.

A KINDLY BENEFICENCE.

That was both a kindly and graceful beneficence on the part of the Spirit of Liberty chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, when that chapter presented to the city a fine, artistic drinking fountain. The gift serves the dual purposes of beauty and utility, and will be an enduring monument of the high artistic taste and of the generous hearts of the members of this chapter.

It is characteristic of the thoroughness with which the needs of the public were considered, that not only human beings were provided for, but man's most devoted friend of all the brute creation, the dog, was also remembered; a pool-where dogs may drink is also provided.

Salt Lake City has been deficient in public drinking accommodations; there are not many fountains, and those that are furnished are primitive and uninviting. An artistic fountain, which is a joy to the eye, does more than enable one to quench his thirst; it satisfies the craving for beauty as well, and the soul is nourished as well as the body.

To the thoughtful and generous ladies who took the pains and met the cost of this fountain, the people of this city cannot be too grateful, nor will the memory of their gracious deed fade from public appreciation. And it would be a fitting mark of recognition if the Library Board or the city, or both, would send to the chapter resolutions of thanks, artistically engraved, expressing the public obligation for the splendid gift.

BEST FOR KOREA TO YIELD.

Korea, "the land of the morning calm," is slow to realize what is going on within and about her. Japan is conceded the suzerainty and control of the sleepy old empire, and yet Korea did not seem to sense the fact until the Marquis Ito went to Seoul to set the house in order, Japanese fashion. And then an outcry went up; Korea wanted to be independent, her tutelage to be merely nominal. That is, she wanted to eat her cake and keep it too.

The Japanese programme, as wired, is moderate; probably that which is stated does not include the interior reforms, which are even more essential than the foreign relations. It will, of course, be necessary for Korea to be absolutely controlled in her foreign affairs and in her customs regulations, by Japan. It will also be to her advantage to be controlled by Japan in her revenue service, in every branch of it, for graft, peculation, oppression, robbery, and all uncleanness and villainy have so permeated all that service in Korea that it is absolutely rotten.

Foreigners in Korea as represented in the local newspapers, are quoted as expressing surprise that Koreans should desire to retain autonomy when the benefits of Japanese domination are apparent. But it need cause no surprise. Abuses that are rooted have always the most strenuous defenders, and that which Koreans will dislike the most to give up is their privilege of robbery and being robbed, officially. Graft, dice hard, and regular, open-hand, legal procedure is what is most obnoxious to the unenlightened mind. The statement that Korea will in the

end be forced to submit, fortunately is true. The very abuses that Koreans so fondly cherish and that they will the most unwillingly give up, must go. And then, with a regular, competent administration, Korea will become, though in a lesser degree, what India is to Great Britain; but with this important difference, that whereas Britons go to India only officially, the overflowing Japanese population will swarm into Korea and make that land a new and greater Japan.

THE JUVENILE COURT.

We trust that there may be no long delay in whatever proceedings are to be taken to determine the validity of the law which establishes the Juvenile Court in this city. If it is not a legal court, then the legislation should be amended, and a legal juvenile court established, for we take it that the good work such a court is doing and can do, is so evident that the people will not willingly dispense with it, while if it is a legal court as established, the test will compel those who are now questioning and opposing it, to subside.

It taunts with uncertainty all the procedure of this court, to have attorneys rise up whenever anything important or definite is done, and publish their opinions that the court is not a legal one, and that they are at liberty, whenever they choose, to set its findings and judgments at naught.

It is true that the idea of juvenile delinquent courts is new. But it is also true that such courts have done conspicuously strong work among the boys, in Chicago, Denver, and Salt Lake; and as to this city, the work would have been much more important and wide-reaching than it has been, but for the niggardly basis on which the court was started, and the continual questioning of its legality and of its work.

So, we hope, now that the court is on a more liberal basis, that the final question of its legality and jurisdiction will be settled speedily, so that it can get on with its good work of saving the thoughtless boys of this city.

NOT CREDIT, BUT A PUZZLE.

With an after-election stupidity which is as phenomenal as its pre-election folly, the Herald says editorially:

Yes, Best Beloved, we are of the opinion that the Thompson administration will carry out the Morris water plans. And we are morally certain that when the work is finished, the Thompson administration will claim all the credit for solving the water problem.

It is not at all certain that "the Morris water plans" can be carried out, imperfect and uncertain and indefinite as they are. Morris has begun a condemnation proceeding against Knudsen, for instance, that no man can see the end of, and he has let a contract for a conduit whose intake is hundreds of feet above the water he has secured to carry in it. His idea probably was that he could tap the main stream, relying on the forbearance of those who have ditches from it and above the water he has exchanged for; but it is practically certain that this will be resisted by the owners of those ditches, as we explained some time ago, by map and text.

It is quite possible, therefore, that the Thompson administration will be kept so busy showing that it should not be accused for the faults of the visionary Morris scheme, that it will altogether forget to claim any credit along that line for "solving the water problem." The main question is, can any solution be found of the muddle as Morris leaves it?

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